

Notts TV response

Graig Chettle

Do you have any comments on our proposals?

We agree with the provisional decision not to advertise or re-advertise 'certain local TV licences' as identified for the future rollout of local television.

We would, of course, not wish this decision to impact, or set a precedent, in any way on the policy for future re-advertisement, in due course, of the licences for the stations which are already broadcasting.

The consultation remarks on the viability of existing stations. The last few years of this new network have been educative as to the sources and the volume of revenues which local TV might reasonably expect to garner. It would be true to say that it has not been easy for any service.

The element of BBC funding which was primarily protected funding through the BBC purchase of local news items has now come to an end for our service - and several others.

Whilst this termination was always envisaged, the acute pressures on alternative revenues were maybe not.

At this critical stage for local television, the timing of the end of the funding has not been helpful.

We would, therefore, ask that, if future stations are not to come to air, that any remaining BBC funding be allocated to existing stations. This would help to ensure the survival of the stations and thus the continued provision of this plurality of news sources, which are particularly valuable in the regions.

We believe that there remain latent economies in the BBC which could be introduced with relative ease to create an ongoing budget of the scale previously enjoyed.